

**SOUTH KESTEVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND**

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

**FOR THE
YEAR 1949.**

South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Public Health Committee

Chairman—

Councillor G. H. Taylor

Vice-Chairman—

Councillor E. W. Mason

Members—

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Councillor | T. W. Atkinson | Councillor | F. Key |
| „ | Mrs. C. A. Baker | „ | Rev. C. Letts |
| „ | K. Bates | „ | J. H. Lewis |
| „ | H. W. Bailey | „ | Rev. L. F. Pigott |
| „ | E. B. Binns | „ | C. J. Pope |
| „ | C. A. Blasson | „ | A. W. Pratt |
| „ | G. G. Crowson | „ | R. Humphrey |
| „ | R. S. Cusden | „ | G. Sandall |
| „ | Hon. Mountjoy-Fane | „ | F. G. Smith |
| „ | C. H. Feneley | „ | Mrs. B. Spence |
| „ | A. J. Freeman | „ | E. E. Story |
| „ | T. Holmes | „ | Hon. Mrs. D. N. |
| „ | C. A. Holmes | | Trollope-Bellew |
| „ | T. G. Holmes | „ | G. E. Walton |

STAFF OF THE

Public Health Department

| | |
|--|---|
| Medical Officer of Health | J. A. Galletly, M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Camb.) D.P.H. |
| Chief Sanitary Inspector | Walter A. Chivers, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. |
| Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector | James G. Clements, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. |
| Assistant Sanitary Inspector | B. F. Larkinson |
| Shorthand Typist and General Clerk | Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith |
| Clerk of the Council | J. J. C. Goulder |

SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year, 1949.

**To the Chairman and Members
of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report and that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector for 1949.

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area in acres | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 95,061 |
| Population (Registrar General's figures, 1949) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14,440 |
| Number of inhabited houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,145 |
| Rateable value | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £38,835 |
| Sum represented by a 1d. rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £145 |

Vital Statistics.

| | M. | F. | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| Live Births | 157 | 101 | 258 |
| Still Births | 1 | — | 1 |
| Deaths | 100 | 95 | 195 |
| Total number of Births in 1948 — 209: Males 97, Females 112 | | | |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes... | ... | ... | — |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | ... | ... | — |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough | ... | ... | — |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | ... | ... | — |

Causes of Death.

| | | | | | | M. | F. |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | | | 4 | 1 |
| Cancer | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 13 |
| Cerebral Hæmorrhage | ... | ... | ... | ... | | — | — |
| Heart Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 | 32 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 1 |
| Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 12 |
| Nephritis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 |
| Suicide | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 |
| Senility | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — |
| Accidental Death | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 4 |
| Diabetes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 |
| Immaturity | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 2 |
| Other Defined Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 | 24 |

Section B. General Provisions of Health Services of the Area.

1949 was a healthy year.

The District Nurses continue their excellent work.

The shortage of nurses remains.

The Hospital Services are now firmly in the hands of the Regional Board. The Isolation Hospital remained closed. The Sanatorium Block remained open.

Cases of Infectious Disease have been admitted to other Hospitals in the Region.

Admission for maternity cases is much easier.

Admission of the aged and infirm is much harder. The old workhouses in this District anyway, did offer refuge to the aged in their day of need and the Local Boards of Guardians did see to their reasonable comfort. So far regionalization has resulted in that often for weeks, no bed is available to them. Long-term planning is of no benefit for those with short-term lives!

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Council's Water Scheme is nearing completion as regards the length of piping to be laid, reservoir construction, booster stations, etc. Thirty-four miles of piping have been laid.

The Council's Sewerage Schemes, which given as much Departmental energy as the Council put into their preparation, would have been well on the way to completion by now, but endless delay has resulted from the economy cuts.

The Refuse Scheme is working well. There are still unsightly dumps about, fed surreptitiously by gormless people.

Water samples are taken regularly.

Section D.

Housing.

Full details will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Price of a Council House in 1912—£150.

Rent— $2/8\frac{1}{2}$ per week (excluding rates).

Price of a Council House in 1949—£1,500.

Rent— $15/1\frac{1}{2}$ per week (excluding rates).

Fewer frills, less elaborate layouts, fewer departmental stages, with suitable delay between each, might have given some of our people still sharing houses, living in odds and ends, a home before now.

The Folkingham Estate has housed 97 families, but it is surely only a temporary home for those there.

I would suggest, however, that no householder is re-housed from there in the near future unless he shows that he is likely to be a good tenant.

I would like to see regular inspection of the Council Houses.

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A detailed report will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

More work has been done on milk and ice cream supplies.

The present set up for milk production is as follows:—

1. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is responsible for the place of production and production of milk.
2. The County Council is responsible for Pasteurising Plants also licences for graded milk, other than at the place of production.
3. The Local Authority is responsible for:—
 - (a) Dairies, other than farm dairies.
 - (b) All distributors, other than producer/retailers.
 - (c) Dealers' licences in connection with pasteurised, sterilized and tuberculin-tested milk.

As an example of the new procedure, a customer complains of dirty milk being delivered to him:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries sample at the place of production.

The Local Authority sample at the point of delivery.

If this milk was graded, then the County Council would have been required to sample at the point of delivery and not the Local Authority.

The County Council are making strenuous efforts to co-ordinate the workings of the new Regulations which have not made for simplicity.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under age groups.

| Age Periods | | Scarlet Fever | Diphtheria | Puerperal Pyrexia | Pneumonia | Ophthalmia Neonatorum | Cerebro Spinal Fever | Measles | Whooping Cough | Erysipelas | Dysentery | Acute Poliomyelitis |
|----------------------|-----|---------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 0—1 | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1—2 | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| 2—3 | ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — |
| 3—4 | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 4—5 | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 5—10 | ... | 25 | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 7 | — | — | — |
| 10—15 | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 15—20 | ... | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20—35 | ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35—45 | ... | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 45—65 | ... | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| 65 and over | ... | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | ... | 36 | — | 1 | 5 | — | — | 12 | 13 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Admitted to Hospital | ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Cancer Deaths.

| | | Died at home | | Died away at Hospitals, Institutions, etc. | |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------|------------|--|----|
| | | Ages | | Ages | |
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Breast | ... | — | 64, 86, 91 | — | — |
| Stomach | ... | 73 | 75, 80 | 44 | 67 |
| Lung | ... | 58, 82 | — | — | — |
| Colon | ... | — | 70 | — | — |
| Bowel | ... | 83, 70 | — | — | — |
| Rectum | ... | — | 56 | 63 | 52 |
| Prostate | ... | 65 | — | 70 | — |
| Pancreas | ... | 63 | — | — | — |
| Ovary | ... | — | 75 | — | 52 |
| Cervix | ... | — | 60 | — | — |
| Liver | ... | — | 54 | — | — |
| Larynx | ... | — | — | 61 | — |
| Peritoneum | ... | — | — | 67 | — |
| Uterus | ... | — | — | — | 59 |
| Total number of cases | | 7 | 10 | 5 | 4 |

Tuberculosis New Cases and Mortality during 1949.

| Age Periods | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----|-------------------|----|-----------|----|-------------------|----|
| | Pulmonary | | Non- Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non- Pulmonary | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0— 1 ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1— 2 ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2— 5 ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5—15 ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15—25 ... | — | 3 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 25—35 ... | 3 | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 35—45 ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 45—55 ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55—65 ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 and over | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |

I wish to thank my fellow officials for their unfailing help and keenness.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. GALLETLY.

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

**The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect
of the Year 1949 for the Rural District of South Kesteven
in the County of (Kesteven) Lincolnshire.**

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | Number on Register | Inspections | Number of Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... | 11 | 4 | 2 | — |
| (ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... | 55 | 7 | 2 | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | 66 | 11 | 4 | — |

2.—Cases in which Defects were Found.

| Particulars | No. of cases in which defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient ... | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | 4 | 4 | — | 4 | — |

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

| Nature of Work | No. of Outworkers | No. of cases in default in sending lists to Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| Cardings, etc., of buttons, etc. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |

J. A. GALLETLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
41, North Street,
Bourne, Lincs.
May, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the following report regarding the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1949.

1. Statistics.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Total number of inspections carried out | ... | ... | 4115 |
| Number of sanitary works completed | ... | ... | 124 |
| Number of letters and notices despatched | ... | ... | 1830 |

2. Details of Visits.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----|------|
| Water Supplies | ... | 70 | Stables and Piggeries | ... | 5 |
| Water Samples | ... | 38 | Housing Visits | ... | 1587 |
| Drainage | ... | 723 | P.H.A. Nuisances | ... | 16 |
| Drain Tests | ... | 86 | Food and Drugs Act | ... | 9 |
| Building Licences | ... | 72 | Ice Cream Premises | ... | 12 |
| Building Inspections | ... | 426 | Ice Cream Samples | ... | 10 |
| Moveable Dwellings | ... | 4 | Verminous Premises | ... | 11 |
| Infectious Disease | ... | 15 | Factories Act | ... | 11 |
| Refuse Disposal | ... | 59 | Rats and Mice | ... | 6 |
| Slaughterhouse | ... | 243 | Fried Fish Shops | ... | 3 |
| Cowsheds and Dairies | ... | 52 | Flood Claims | ... | 15 |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits | | | ... | 642 | |

3. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies.

(a) MILK. Fifty-two cowsheds and dairies were inspected during the year and appropriate action was taken in cases where defects and nuisances were found to exist. Although it was not possible to devote as much time to this work as one would have wished, several cowsheds and dairies were reconstructed and improved during the year as a result of informal notices and personal interviews.

As from the 1st October, 1949, a number of the duties previously administered by Local Authorities in connection with Milk and Dairies were taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries but as this Council, like many other Local Authorities in England and Wales has not had sufficient staff to carry out those duties during the past 25 years, the decrease in responsibilities will not be noticed. As the Medical Officer of Health has stated in his Report, the new administrative procedure has not made for simplicity, as there appears to be now more interested parties in Milk Production and Distribution than before.

(b) ICE CREAM. Frequent visits were made during the year to the two premises in the District where ice cream is manufactured, and also to the several shops where ice cream is sold by retail.

Whereas in 1948 only two of the fifteen samples of ice cream taken were placed in Provisional Grade 1, it is gratifying to note that there has been an improvement on these figures during the year under review in that four out of ten samples taken were placed in Provisional Grade 1. That there is still room for further improvement goes without saying but there has been evident a keener spirit during the last year on the part of our two manufacturers to take greater care with their methods of handling and sterilisation of equipment, which, if not carried out satisfactorily, are the main causes of unsatisfactory reports upon samples taken.

Appended hereunder are details of the ten samples taken and of the results of the analyses thereof.

| Date | Sample Number | Identification Reference of Manufacturer | Source of Sample | Methylene Blue Test Provisional Grade |
|---------|---------------|--|------------------|--|
| 2.6.49 | 1 | M/1. S.K.R.D. | From Churn | 1 |
| 2.6.49 | 2 | M/1. S.K.R.D. | Block (wrapped) | 1 |
| 2.6.49 | 3 | M/2. Outside Area | From freezer | 1 |
| 11.8.49 | 4 | M/1. S.K.R.D. | From Churn | 4 |
| 11.8.49 | 5 | M/2. Outside Area | From freezer | 3 |
| 11.8.49 | 6 | M/3. S.K.R.D. | From freezer | 1 |
| 11.8.49 | 7 | M/4. Outside Area | Block (wrapped) | 4 |
| 8.9.49 | 8 | M/3. S.K.R.D. | From freezer | 4 |
| 8.9.49 | 9 | M/1. S.K.R.D. | From Churn | 2 |
| 8.9.49 | 10 | M/2. Outside Area | From freezer | 3 |

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The duties in connection with meat inspection continue to be carried out satisfactorily in conjunction with the Bourne Urban District Council, and it is again gratifying to record that all the animals slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, have been inspected by both Councils' Officers.

The same sentiments, however, cannot be expressed in regard to the slaughterhouse itself where conditions in regard to the facilities necessary for the hygienic slaughtering of animals and handling of the meat are not satisfactory. Your Officers, together with representatives of the Bourne Urban District Council, have met representatives of the Ministry of Food on several occasions in order to discuss this matter and also points in connection with the transport of meat which also is unsatisfactory. At the end of the year, no action had been taken by the Ministry of Food as a result of these meetings and I sincerely hope that both the Bourne Urban and South Kesteven Rural District Councils will continue to press the Government Departments concerned for these necessary improvements to be carried out.

The following animals, a total of 3150, were inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, during the year:—

| Bulls. | Bullocks. | Cows. | Heifers. | Calves. | Sheep & Lambs. | Pigs. |
|--------|-----------|-------|----------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| 14 | 264 | 149 | 134 | 340 | 2020 | 229 |

As a result of such inspections, the following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 bull's carcase and all offal | 1103 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 8 cows' carcasses and all offal | 6107 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 3 bullocks' carcasses and all offal | 1821 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 979 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 2 calves' carcasses and all offal | 125 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 4 pigs' carcasses and all offal | 751 lbs. Gen. T.B. |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 580 lbs. Fevered & T.B. |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 557 lbs. T.B. & Emaciation |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 504 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 457 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy |
| 6 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 376 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy |
| 1 bullock's carcase and all offal | 530 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 85 lbs. Emaciation & Oedema |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 67 lbs. Emaciation & Pleurisy |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 48 lbs. Emaciation & Ecchymosis |
| 3 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 146 lbs. Gen. Dropsy |
| 2 pigs' carcasses and all offal | 156 lbs. Gen. Dropsy |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 549 lbs. Dropsy & Pleurisy |
| 2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 127 lbs. Fevered |
| 3 calves' carcasses and all offal | 224 lbs. Fevered |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 101 lbs. Fevered |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 707 lbs. Fever and Peritonitis |
| 1 bullock's carcase and all offal | 302 lbs. Fever and Bruising |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 77 lbs. Fever and Oedema |

| | |
|--|--|
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 636 lbs. Gen. Fever and Extreme Bruising |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 122 lbs. Fever & Moribund |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 605 lbs. Fever & Oedema |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 825 lbs. Fever & Jaundice |
| 28 calves' carcasses and all offal | 1782 lbs. Joint Ill |
| 13 calves' carcasses and all offal | 598 lbs. Immaturity |
| 2 cows' carcasses and all offal | 1016 lbs. Septicæmia |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 461 lbs. Septicæmia |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 124 lbs. Septicæmia |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 112 lbs. Septicæmia |
| 4 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 325 lbs. Septic Metritis |
| 5 cows' carcasses and all offal | 3641 lbs. Septic Metritis |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 621 lbs. Septic Peritonitis |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 700 lbs. Septic Traumatism of Lungs |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 82 lbs. Septic Injury |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 64 lbs. Septic Pleurisy |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 585 lbs. Septic Mastitis |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 107 lbs. Septic Mastitis |
| 1 cow's carcase and all offal | 650 lbs. Moribund |
| 2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 244 lbs. Moribund |
| 5 pigs' carcasses and all offal | 568 lbs. Swine Erysipelas |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 53 lbs. Peritonitis |
| 1 calf's carcase and all offal | 30 lbs. Pneumonia |
| 1 bullock's carcase and all offal | 916 lbs. Gangrenous Pneumonia |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 120 lbs. Gangrenous Pneumonia |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 64 lbs. Gangrene & Ecchymosis |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 202 lbs. Urticaria |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 75 lbs. Pyæmia |
| 1 pig's carcase and all offal | 120 lbs. Uræmia |
| 1 heifer's carcase and all offal | 641 lbs. Injury, Fever and Inflammation |
| 1 bullock's carcase and all offal | 585 lbs. Extensive Bruising |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 41 lbs. Injury |
| 2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal | 126 lbs. Drowning |
| 1 sheep's carcase and all offal | 112 lbs. Decomposition |
| Parts of carcasses and various offals of all food animals | 11166 lbs. Various Diseases too numerous to record individually. |

Total weight of unsound food voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

| | | | |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------------------------|
| 19 tons | 18 cwts. | 1 qr. | 0 lbs. as compared with |
| 24 tons | 12 cwts. | 3 qrs. | 4 lbs. for the previous year |

The following table gives details of carcasses inspected and condemned and the percentages of the total number of carcasses inspected which were found to be affected with (1) diseases other than tuberculosis and (2) tuberculosis.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Number killed (if known) ... | ... | 412 | 149 | 340 | 2020 | 229 |
| Number inspected ... | ... | 412 | 149 | 340 | 2020 | 229 |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis: | | | | | | |
| (a) Whole carcasses condemned ... | ... | 9 | 15 | 45 | 31 | 14 |
| (b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | | 117 | 53 | 3 | 98 | 101 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | | 30.58% | 45.63% | 14.71% | 6.43% | 50.22% |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | | |
| (a) Whole carcasses condemned ... | ... | 5 | 10 | 2 | — | 4 |
| (b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | | 68 | 67 | — | — | 13 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | | 17.72% | 51.68% | .59% | — | 7.42% |

4. Housing.

During the year, 420 houses were inspected and categorised in accordance with the recommendations of the Hobhouse Committee on Rural Housing and the following table gives details of these, together with an accumulative statistical summary of the details obtained to date.

Rural Housing Survey, 1949.

| Village | Categorisation of Houses | | | | | Premises Not Categorised | Total Houses Inspected |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| Deeping | | | | | | | |
| St. James | 4 | — | 56 | 2 | 2 | — | 64 |
| Northorpe - | 16 | — | 47 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 77 |
| Thurlby - | 16 | 5 | 77 | — | 29 | — | 127 |
| Obthorpe - | 1 | — | 1 | 4 | 1 | — | 7 |
| Kate's Bridge - | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 3 | — | 6 |
| Carlby - | — | — | 25 | 2 | 8 | — | 35 |
| Careby - | 1 | 1 | 22 | — | 2 | — | 26 |
| Aunby - | — | 1 | 3 | — | 6 | — | 10 |
| Holywell - | 2 | — | 16 | — | — | — | 18 |
| Toft - | 1 | — | 13 | 1 | 5 | — | 20 |
| Lound - | — | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | — | 10 |
| Manthorpe - | 2 | — | 8 | — | 8 | — | 18 |
| TOTALS - | 44 | 11 | 272 | 15 | 75 | 1 | 418 |
| Plus previous inspections - | 178 | 86 | 1270 | 175 | 466 | 59 | 2234 |
| Totals to 31st December, 1949 - | 222 | 97 | 1542 | 190 | 541 | 60 | 2652 |

The information obtained during the past year, coupled with that ascertained during preceding years, revealing as it does that no less than 20.40% of the houses inspected to date have been classified in Category 5 for demolition and that approximately 82.05% of the remainder require major works of reconstruction and repair to bring them up to the standards demanded by the present-day generation, which standards are not in any way exorbitant, illustrates the seriously low level to which housing conditions generally have sunk during the last 25 years. This is due chiefly to two factors as follows:—(a) the long period of agricultural depression between the two World Wars, when farmers and land-owners were not in a position financially to improve their workers' cottages, and (b) the difficulty in having repairs and improvements carried out at agricultural workers' cottages during the last ten years when farming has prospered due to restrictive controls of building labour and materials and present-day high cost of building work.

Better housing conditions in Rural Areas must go hand-in-hand with a prosperous agricultural policy and it is to be hoped that the British farmer will never again be reduced to eking out a bare existence, which, if such is the case, is bound to have an adverse effect on the housing conditions of his employees. Good housing attracts good employees.

The powers given to Local Authorities to make financial grants to owners of other properties for the improvement of housing conditions contained in the Housing Act, 1949, is welcomed but one

also feels that a general increase in rents is inevitable and must be allowed to property owners to cover the increased costs of housing repairs above those which obtained in 1939.

5. Drainage.

In connection with drainage, I have experienced similar feelings to those of the small child who, after having been given a large piece of candy and who about to eat it, has had it snatched away from him. I fully realise that many of the economical cuts in expenditure were very necessary in view of the country's financial situation, but as sewage disposal problems in Rural Areas become increasingly acute as each month goes by, it is to be deprecated that the Government has decided to defer, for at least twelve months, this Council's proposals to provide new sewerage and sewage disposal works for Baston, Langtoft, Market Deeping, Deeping St. James, Horbling and Billingborough, when such Schemes had been previously approved and were near to the point of going forward.

The Council's new Water Schemes are well on the way to completion and it is obvious that more and more people in the Area will wish to have bathroom facilities and water closets, yet these accepted present-day amenities must be denied to them as there are no satisfactory facilities for dealing with the sullage water and sewage emanating therefrom. Conversely, if the Council allows such works to be carried out and the drainage systems are connected to the existing piped sewers or old brick or stone culverts which ultimately discharge without any prior treatment into water-courses or streams, the danger to public health is obviously increased with the grave danger of pollution of water supplies.

Whilst it is appreciated that a satisfactory and sufficient water supply is of major importance to every house in a rural area, the powers that be should, by the twentieth century, have realised that facilities for taking away foul water arising in consequence is of no less importance. In my opinion, the provision of water supply, in our larger villages, should go hand-in-hand with the provision of new sewers and sewage disposal works. The one is necessarily correlated to the other and should not be separated.

Periodical attention continues to be given to the many foul sewer dykes throughout the District but such work only serves as a temporary alleviation of what are serious nuisances. The same remarks apply to many of the old brick and stone culverts taking sewage in the various villages. Frequent attention has to be given to these on account of their becoming choked or because they have broken in, and the clearing and patching up of these antiquated, badly constructed and inadequate "sewers" gives little satisfaction to your Public Health Officers as we know only too well that the only satisfactory solution is the provision of new sewerage systems and sewage disposal schemes.

Attention is again drawn to the unsatisfactory condition of the sewers and sewage outfalls at Morton and Thurlby, two of the

larger parishes in the Rural District, and as these two villages are situated either side of Bourne, to the north and south, and fairly close thereto, it is again emphasised that co-operation with the Bourne Urban District Council with a view to providing a joint sewage disposal works at Bourne for Bourne, Thurlby and Morton, is the obviously common-sense solution to this problem.

It will be noted, elsewhere in this Report, that 723 visits were made in connection with drainage, and whilst a considerable amount of your Officers' time was given to problems arising from foul sewers and sewer dykes, in addition much time was devoted to the roding, cleansing and improvement of parish watercourses.

Improvement schemes on parish watercourses were carried out in two villages during the year, amounting in total length to 108 chains of parish dykes cleansed at a total cost of £270 and annual roding of other watercourses was carried out in 10 parishes.

6. Cleansing Services.

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL. The household refuse collection and disposal scheme continues to function satisfactorily and complaints of non-collection, which are few, are dealt with as they arise.

Each village in the Area continues to be visited by the Council's Refuse Freighter once per fortnight and refuse is collected from containers placed at the kerbside by householders. Refuse is disposed of by tipping at refuse pits situated at Deeping St. James, Billingborough, Swinstead and Corby.

Waste paper is collected separately where it is put out for collection but no special efforts were made during the year in order to try to increase the yield of same, on account of the fact that for some considerable time there was no outlet for the sale of this material. Later, when it was possible to resume deliveries to the Paper Mills, the price received by the Council was less than half that which had been paid before deliveries were stopped. Consequently it is not now an economic proposition to make any special efforts to increase the yield. Details of waste paper, cardboard, etc., collected and sold during the year are as follows:—

| Materials | | Tons | Weight | | Cash realised | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------|--------|------|---------------|-----|-------|
| | | | cwts. | lbs. | £ | s. | d. |
| PAPER, etc. | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Cardboard ... | ... | 6 | 8 | 84 | 28 | 7 8 |
| (b) | Mixed Waste | ... | 2 | 15 | 56 | 11 | 15 8 |
| (c) | Magazines, Books and Newsprint | ... | 4 | 19 | 84 | 34 | 11 10 |
| TOTALS | | ... | 14 | 4 | 0 | £74 | 15 2 |

(b) PAIL EMPTYING SCHEME. During the year, the Council decided to institute a free weekly pail emptying service to dwelling-houses in all the villages and to empty septic tanks, cesspools and vaults

at a nominal charge. Two new Cesspool Emptying Vehicles with pail hopper attachments were ordered and it was expected that these would be delivered during the early Spring of 1950 so that the Scheme could be put into operation at the commencement of the financial year in April, 1950.

7. Water Supplies.

The Council's new Water Schemes showed more progress during the year and up to the 31st December, 1949, on Contract 1, a total length of approximately 30 miles of various diameter pipes had been laid. In connection with Contract No. 2, at the end of the year, approximately four miles of pipes had been laid and the concrete walls of the large Reservoir at Lound were nearly up to top water level.

The new main from Market Deeping to Tallington taking Peterborough water is now in commission and the pump at Tallington has been dismantled. The villages of Wilsthorpe, Braceborough, Greatford, Barholm, Tallington and West Deeping are now on the Peterborough supply.

The main from Billingborough to Rippingale has now been taken over by the Council and house connections are being made. Water is from the existing bore at Billingborough.

It is anticipated that all the new Schemes will be completed by the end of 1950 and that, thereafter, approximately 95% of all the properties in the Rural District will be able to take a piped supply of pure drinking water from the new mains.

The new Schemes for the north, south and west areas of the District, will replace the existing fifteen separate water installations owned by the Council. Many of these fifteen small installations have proved to be most unsatisfactory in the past on account of their insufficiency of supply, breakdowns and intermittent pollution.

Your Public Health Officers continue to take samples from the existing water installations and from private bores, wells, etc., and the details of the results found upon analysis are as follows:—

WATER SAMPLES.

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1. | From Council's Installations | ... | ... | 21 |
| | (a) Number found to be satisfactory | ... | ... | 19 |
| | (b) Number found to be polluted | ... | ... | 2 |
| 2. | From private bores, wells, etc. | ... | ... | 27 |
| | (a) Number found to be satisfactory | ... | ... | 5 |
| | (b) Number found to be polluted | ... | ... | 22 |

The two samples from the Council's installations which were found to be polluted were taken from the public supply at Swayfield, which has been found to be unsatisfactory for several years. All that could be done in this case until such time as the new Water Schemes are completed was to renew the warning notices which had been posted in the village previously, drawing the attention

of the residents to such pollution and strongly advising them to boil all water used for drinking purposes. In the case of the polluted private supplies, notices were served upon the owners requesting them either to take a supply from the Council's mains, where possible, or to provide an alternative supply where the Council's water is not available.

The water supply of the Area cannot be considered to be generally satisfactory as to quality in view of the results obtained from the 48 samples taken, 24 of which were found to be polluted, these being mostly private supplies.

Details of the number of dwelling-houses supplied from public water mains (a) direct to houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes, are as follows:—

| | Direct | Standpipe |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Aslackby and Laughton | 47 | 18 |
| Barholm and Stowe | 9 | 5 |
| Baston | 95 | — |
| Billingborough | 133 | 66 |
| Braceborough and Wilsthorpe ... | 15 | 5 |
| Bytham, Castle | 83 | 42 |
| Bytham, Little | 34 | 42 |
| Careby, Aunby and Holywell ... | 6 | — |
| Carlby | — | — |
| Corby | 150 | 15 |
| Counthorpe and Creeton | 20 | 6 |
| Deeping St. James | 277 | 118 |
| Deeping, Market | 262 | 6 |
| Deeping, West | 63 | 3 |
| Dowsby | 20 | 19 |
| Dunsby | — | — |
| Edenham | — | — |
| Folkingham | 179 | 15 |
| Greatford | 15 | 11 |
| Haconby | 53 | 1 |
| Horbling | 15 | — |
| Irnham | — | — |
| Kirkby Underwood | 30 | 1 |
| Langtoft | 76 | 3 |
| Morton | 233 | 5 |
| Pointon and Sempringham ... | 14 | 13 |
| Rippingale | 73 | 8 |
| Swayfield | 35 | 6 |
| Swinstead | 19 | 44 |
| Tallington | 30 | 14 |
| Thurlby | 142 | 15 |
| Toft, Lound and Manthorpe ... | 11 | — |
| Uffington | 41 | 21 |
| Witham-on-the-Hill | — | — |
| Totals ... | 2180 | 502 |

Bridge End, Millthorpe, Little Dowsby, Hawthorpe, Bulby, Scottlethorpe, Aunby, Holywell, Lound and Carlby are all small hamlets relying on springs and shallow wells, and having no piped supply. Edenham, though somewhat larger, is supplied by wells, only one of which is said to give a satisfactory yield. (The Council submitted a scheme for the parish of Edenham to the Ministry of Health in 1938, and this was duly approved, but delay arose owing to negotiations with the Kesteven County Council, as to the making of a grant, and the position being still undefined at the outbreak of hostilities, the scheme was deferred).

Elsthorpe, Careby, Toft and Witham-on-the-Hill all have piped supplies of greater or less extent, drawing from bores or springs and delivering to taps or standpipes, a limited number of properties being also connected in one or two of the villages.

Irnham and Grimsthorpe are on Estate Supplies and are fed by means of a pump drawing from a borehole and a spring respectively in the grounds of Irnham Hall and Grimsthorpe Castle. In each instance the pump delivers to a small reservoir from which the water is piped to the big house and to the village.

8. Rodent Control.

Regular attention was given during the year by the Council's Rodent Operator (Mr. E. Wilson) to the Refuse Tips used by the Council and to the many sewer dykes throughout the District in connection with infestations by rats thereat. In addition 16 private dwelling-houses and four business premises were treated, and in consequence of all these operations, 934 rats and mice were found to have been killed.

9. Rivers Pollution.

Early in September, 1949, it came to the notice of the Department that gross pollutions of the River Welland had taken place in its course through a neighbouring Local Authority's Area, and that thousands of fish which had been killed in consequence were strewn about the River Banks, particularly in the region of Uffington Bridge.

Upon an investigation being carried out it was ascertained that the pollution had occurred some seven to ten days earlier and that the dead fish laying about the River Banks and on "islands" in the bed of the River were in an advanced stage of decomposition.

At the time, although exhaustive enquiries were made, it was not possible to obtain any definite information as to the source of the pollution, and as a precautionary measure, warning notices were posted along the Banks of the River warning would-be bathers against using the River for bathing. At the same time, samples of the River water and of the dead fish were taken in order to try to ascertain the cause of the pollution.

Arrangements were also made for the dead fish along the River Banks in this District to be gathered up and buried. This work took three days to carry out, the River Banks were cleared for a distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and it is estimated that approximately 50 stones of dead fish were buried.

As a result of the long delay which occurred between the time of pollution and the Officers of this Council being informed of same, it was not possible to trace the cause of pollution. In the case of the samples of water and dead fish which were taken, the analysts' reports thereon could not give any definite cause for the pollution as the main effects of same must have passed away before the samples were taken.

Some weeks after the occurrence, it was ascertained that the pollution had been caused by the effluent from a Gas Works being allowed to discharge into the River Welland.

10. Building Licences

Seventy-two visits were made in connection with applications received for Building Licences during the year, and, as has been the case in previous years, the work has proceeded smoothly and expeditiously.

The Council's thanks are again due to the Building Licences Sub-Committee (Councillors G. G. Crowson, E. B. Binns and G. H. Taylor), who have given up a great deal of time and thought to this work, and who have been of great assistance to your Officers in administering the duties imposed upon the Council under Defence Regulation 56 A.

At the end of the year, whilst the Council's quota of licences for the erection of dwelling-houses by private enterprise has been reduced, there were still twenty applications on the Department's files, some of which had been on the list since 1947 and 1948.

11. Building Inspections.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the Defence Regulations concerning Building Licensing, the Council's Plans Committee, during the past year, has dealt with an average of approximately 34 plans per month and your Officers have carried out 426 inspections of building works in progress and have examined and tested 86 new drainage systems.

12. Staff.

Once again I must record my appreciation of the assistance I have received from Messrs. J. G. Clements and B. F. Larkinson, and Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith, members of the staff of the Public Health Department.

In connection with staff, I must draw the Council's attention to the total inadequacy of the office accommodation in the Public Health Department. My own office is small but the general office, accommodating Messrs. Clements and Larkinson, and Mrs. Fisher-Smith, is grossly overcrowded and unless bigger and more office accommodation is provided for the staff of the Public Health Department in the near future, the work of the Department must inevitably suffer.

In conclusion, I would thank, once again, my fellow Officers and Members of the Council for the courtesy and co-operation extended to me during the year in the discharge of the many and varied duties of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER A. CHIVERS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

